

## Utah Recreation This Week

## SKI TOURING: Skiing on the Moon

Skiing at Idaho's Craters of the Moon National Monument can be like skiing on the moon. See why by reading Tom Wharton's story on page C-5.

## NATURE: Great Salt Lake

The Great Salt Lake is only a part of a larger system. In the second chapter of a year-long look at the Great Salt Lake, Tom Wharton takes a look at how the lake's tributaries affect the lake itself. See page C-5.

## FISHING: Hit the Rivers

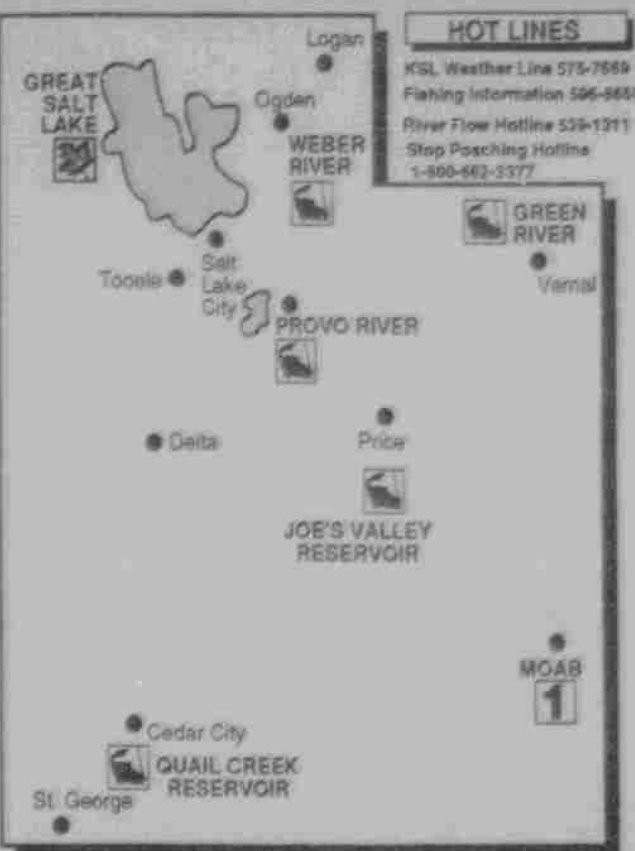
Northern Utah anglers should try fishing rivers like the Green, Weber and Provo this week. Other hot spots are Quail Creek and Joe's Valley Reservoir. For details, see page C-5.

## BICYCLING: Riding through Siberia

Chris Jorgensen writes about a man who took a bicycle tour across Siberia. See page C-6 for details.

## 1 ONE DAY IN MOAB

Southeastern Utah's largest city has gone from a mining to a tourist town. For things to do, see Craig Hansell's story on this page.



More recreation, see pages C-8, C-6 and C-5.

## Legislators to Trim Wildlife Budget

The Executive Appropriations Committee of the Utah legislature seems poised to cut \$658,000 in general funds from the Division of Wildlife Resources budget so that the seven other agencies in the Department of Natural Resources will not have to take budget cuts.

That marks a 48 percent reduction in general funding for the wildlife agency. The money, however, will be replaced by dollars from hunting and fishing licenses.

"We feel our projects warrant 30 percent general funds instead of what is now three percent," said DWR director Tim Provan. He feels the legislature is heading towards a time when hunting and fishing license dollars will fund all wildlife programs.

While nonconsumptive wildlife



programs won't be entirely cut from future budgets, Provan said it will be increasingly difficult for his agency to expand programs.

Meanwhile, in the final days of the legislative sessions, conservation organizations are fighting hard to have the House of Representatives pass a bill to fund the

purchase of the S&H Ranch as part of the Book Cliffs Initiative. Private organizations like the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, The Nature Conservancy and The Foundation for North American Wild Sheep have already purchased three ranches in the area. The Senate has already passed the bill, SB114.

"Wildlife interests, the Bureau of Land Management, ranchers and the state land board have come together on this issue," said Don Peay, state chairman for the sheep foundation. "This is an opportunity for the state to purchase a multiple use area with an emphasis on wildlife which is unparalleled in this century."

The bill was amended in the Senate to meet concerns of county commissioners.

## Great Salt Lake Tributaries: Rivers of Life

## Continued From C-8

Steve Jensen, an environmental planning coordinator for Salt Lake County, has been instrumental in cleaning up the Jordan River system. Though some coliform bacteria and heavy metal pollution problems remain to be solved from North Temple north to Farmington Bay, water quality on the Jordan has improved in recent years.

"We are trying to reclaim the wetland acreage along the river so we can gain a lot of the buffer capacity," says Jensen. "The wet-

lands treat the pollutants before they can enter the river and, ultimately, into the waterfowl areas which surround the lake.

This new emphasis on natural systems may turn out to be a boon for naturalists like Lindahl, conservation chair of the Bridgeland Audubon Society, and other city residents looking for green places to escape an urban environment.

Jim Boone knows the value of such places, just as Jim Bridger must have known when he joined other mountain men in exploring

the Great Salt Lake tributaries. In an introduction to a canoeing guide to the Bear River he penned, Boone writes:

"At dawn in late summer, before the sun comes boldly over the mountain range to the east, a low, dense fog hugs the water's surface and obscures the boatman's vision. Close aboard, an invisible beaver's tail smacks the river. Just around the next bend, a small flock of Canada geese is about to rise to begin its daily rounds of the grain fields. This is the Bear when it relaxes."

## Account Opened for La Sal Mountains Avalanche Forecaster

He dedicated his life to keeping skiers in the Manti La Sal Mountains from harm's way.

Now, avalanche forecaster Mark Yates is gone, and Moab's Peter Haney has established an account at the Moab First Security

Bank branch for Yates' wife Mary, 3-year-old son Joshua and 1-year-old daughter Bethany.

Yates and three other members of Moab's new hasty-response avalanche rescue team were killed in an avalanche Feb. 12 high in Gold

Basin. Send contributions to the Mark Yates Memorial Fund at First Security Bank, P.O. Box 99, 40 North Main Street, Moab, Utah, 84532.

—Craig Hansell



## Anyone Who Spends More On A Luxury Car Should Seek Immediate Financial Analysis.

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## 1 ONE DAY IN MOAB

MOAB — Nestled on the banks of the Colorado River between Arches and Canyonlands National Parks, this former uranium boom town is now mining the rich scenery.

By next fall, six motels under construction will add more than 300 rooms to the existing bed base and bring the number of motel beds to about 1,000.

"When you don't have a vacancy from the first of March until Thanksgiving, you knew something was going to happen," said Sam Taylor publisher of the *Moab Times Independent*. "These park visitation figures here are much higher than the national parks in general. We are looking at a 15 percent to 20 percent increase."

Where the likes of Charlie Steen, Bob Barrett and a large contingent of uranium prospectors once tramped the hills in search of wealth, mountain bikers are now discovering the red-rock country. Taylor maintains the mountain bike phenomenon will continue to grow.

In addition to nearby Arches, Canyonlands and Dead Horse Point State Park, Moab also has an 18-hole golf course which attracts a growing number of folks.

"As a resident here for 58 years, I have seen so many changes in this valley it boggles the mind," Taylor said.

During the uranium, oil and gas boom of 1981, Grand County had a population of about 8,400. Now the population is 6,800. According to Brad Barber with the Utah State Planning Office, 1991 saw the reversal of a population decline through the 1980s. In 1981, the Grand County mining employment was 810. By 1990, that number had fallen to 162. Although 15 percent of Grand County tax revenue comes from mineral production, only seven percent of the jobs are mineral related.

"The 10th largest tax payer in the county owns a bunch of oil and gas wells. He pays almost \$800,000 in taxes every year while a big hotel will only pay \$15,000 to \$20,000," said Taylor who has been the Utah Road Commissioner for 19 years.

A relatively new Moab industry is the small winery. More than 150,000 grape vines have been planted throughout the valley.

As the solid line of Wasatch Front traffic fills the highway past Price and Green River toward canyon country, Moab's population can quickly double during holiday weekends.

With its big river-running business, mountain biking, hiking, four-wheeling and golf, Moab offers much to visitors.

The Red Rock 4-Wheeler's annual Easter Jeep Safari, this year scheduled April 11-19, brings thousands of visitors to test their driving skills on local trails. Those same routes provide the same attraction for mountain bikers at the Canyonlands Fat Tire Festival in October.

In recent years, Moab has not held any city-wide celebrations. This year, according to Taylor, the town will celebrate (probably July 4th) the 40th anniversary of Steen's Mi Vida uranium discovery.

—Craig Hansell

# 44TH ANNUAL Salt Lake Tribune SPRING HOME & GARDEN FESTIVAL

A JONATHAN GREENBAND PRODUCTION

## SHOW HOURS

Thursday.....Noon - 10 pm  
Friday.....Noon - 10 pm  
Saturday.....11 am - 10 pm  
Sunday.....Noon - 6 pm

## ADMISSION

Adults.....\$3.00  
Children under 12.....Free

## REGISTER TO WIN

Register to win a beautiful playhouse valued at \$5,000 courtesy of ABC Seamless Steel Siding and KALL Radio. Playhouse features 8-foot vaulted ceilings, windows that open, Seamless steel siding, carpet and fence.

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Attend informative seminars on exciting topics like: Landscaping, Energy Saving, Remodeling, Microwave Oven Cooking, Interior Decorating, Pool and Spa Maintenance, Wood Refinishing, and much, much more!

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44th ANNUAL  
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Noon - 10 pm

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